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As of today, the processes of vasculogenesis and angiogenesis have been well documented, yet very little is known about the development of the lymphatic system (lymphoangiogenesis) despite it's role in normal and pathologic conditions. Even though lymphoedema is the most prevalent human lymphatic disorder, recent data suggests defects in the development of this system may play a role in adult-onset obesity. The lack of lymphatic-specific markers has made it difficult to document the normal and pathologic development of this system affecting the progress of innovation in this field. This article by Wigle et al. (1999) identifies the homeobox gene *Prox1* as a specific marker of lymph endothelium as well as it's potential role in regulating the development of the lymphatic system. These findings support the original model over 100 years ago (1902,1904) that the lymphatic system is derived from budding and sprouting of venous endothelial cells and not derived from the mesenchyme (1910).

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